

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 045684
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SIG-01 MMO-01 PA-01 HA-05
PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 DODE-00 AID-05 TRSE-00 IO-13
USIA-06 /074 R

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APPROVED BY D: THE DEPUTY SECRETARY
ARA: TATODMAN
S/S - DANDERSON

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P 222005Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: TODMAN SPEECH AT CENTER FOR INTER-AMERICAN
RELATIONS

1. IN SOME AREAS PRESS IS DISTORTING SPEECH AS CHANGE IN
CRITICISM OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY.
DISTORTION HAS OCCURRED WHERE LISTING OF TYPES OF ACTION
WE SHOULD AVOID HAS BEEN MISINTERPRETED AS CRITICISM OF
THE CONDUCT OF THE POLICY.
2. THERE HAS BEEN NO REPEAT NO CHANGE IN HUMAN RIGHTS
POLICY. ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, PRESIDENT CARTER SIGNED
PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE NO. 30 (TEXT BEING TRANSMITTED
SEPTEL) AFFIRMING THE POLICY.
3. AS FOLLOWING KEY PASSAGES OF TODMAN SPEECH MAKE CLEAR,
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THERE IS NO BASIS FOR CONSTRUING SPEECH AS CRITICISM OF
THE HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY.

4. BEGIN QUOTE: PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS IS FUNDAMENTAL
TENET AND A CORNERSTONE OF THIS ADMINISTRATION'S FOREIGN
POLICY. IT IS CENTRAL TO OUR RELATIONS WITH ALL NATIONS.
I KNOW THAT THIS DEEP PERSONAL CONVICTION OF MY OWN, IS

PROFOUNDLY HELD BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE. MOREOVER, BECAUSE THIS COMMITMENT REFLECTS UNIVERSALLY RECOGNIZED VALUES, IT BINDS US RATHER THAN SEPARATES US FROM THE OTHER PEOPLES OF THIS PLANET. IT CALLS ON THE CONSCIENCE OF ALL GOVERNMENTS TO LIVE UP TO THEIR SACRED OBLIGATIONS. IT GIVES ALL PEOPLE HOPE FOR A BETTER FUTURE KNOWING THAT WE STAND BEHIND THEIR ASPIRATIONS TO SHARE IN THE FULLNESS OF LIFE.

THAT IS WHY WE HAVE MADE CLEAR TO ALL COUNTRIES THAT THE NATURE OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THEM WILL DEPEND ON THEIR PRACTICES IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS AREA. IN DOING SO WE ARE NOT INTERFERING IN THEIR INTERNAL AFFAIRS, BUT DETERMINING OUR OWN BEHAVIOR IN RESPONSE TO WHAT WE SEE.
END QUOTE.

5. WHERE PRESS, OFFICIAL OR PRIVATE OPINION HAS PICKED UP LINE THAT THERE IS CHANGE IN HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY OR CRITICISM OF SUCH POLICY YOU SHOULD MOVE FORCEFULLY TO COUNTER IT.

6. SPEECH IN USIS FILE. Q'S AND A'S SUMMARY BEING TRANSMITTED SEPARATE CABLE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE045684
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JABUSHNELL/D:DLAMB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780082-0791
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780226/aaaaavze.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a0082bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3516744
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TODMAN SPEECH AT CENTER FOR INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS
TAGS: SOPN, XM, (TODMAN, TERENCE A)
To: ARA POSTS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a0082bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014